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Attorney's Docket No. 033297

THE ENITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Bernard H. Andreas, et al.

Application No.: 10/033,689

Filed: December 28, 2001

For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR

SUTURING TISSUE

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying form PTO-1449 for the above-identified patent application.

[X] No additional fee for submission of an IDS is required.

[] The fee of \$180.00 (126) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is also enclosed.

[] A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is also enclosed.

A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and the fee of \$180.00 (126) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) are also enclosed.

[] Charge \$_____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.

[X] A return postcard is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 9, 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Palent Application of

ARROUTH
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Ofform Suturing Tissue

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby submits the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, each of the documents is cited below.

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Page 10

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The documents are being submitted within 3 months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or statement is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Copies of the listed documents were previously submitted in prior application Serial No. 08/883,246, filed June 26, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,355,050B1 (enclosed) upon which Applicant rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of the listed documents are not included.

To assist the Examiner, the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Bv:

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Date: April 9, 2002